marketing of Diesel and Petrol has been opened up for new players. Since there has been no change in import policy, the question of consensus of private players in the oil sector does not arise.

State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (STC) is not the designated State Trading Enterprise for these products. Nevertheless, the past record of State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (STC) has not been dismal and it has been making profits consistently. However, STC is being disinvested, and not wound up, under the extant policy of the Government.

Meeting of Coffee growers with Prime Minister

4981. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of Indian Coffee growers met the Prime Minister before his departure for Indonesia;

(b) if so, whether the delegation was assured that Government would look into their problems; and

(c) the details of the steps Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In order to provide relief to coffee growers, the Govt. of India, besides operating several plan schemes under which various types of financial and technical assistance are provided to the growers, have in the recent past, taken a series of steps for the benefit of the coffee sector. The relief measures include reschedulement of loans of 2000-2001 taken by coffee growers from commercial banks, implementation of an interest relief Scheme by Coffee Board, which provided 5% interest relief to targeted small coffee growers on working capital loans availed by them from the banks, and providing for financial assistance @Rs. 500 per tonne to Indian Coffee exporters for reducing their handling costs.

Recently, once again at the behest of Govt. of India, the Reserve Bank of India has announced a relief package for the coffee growers under which all types of coffee loans (short, medium and long terms including re-phased/ rescheduled loans) extended by banks, which are outstanding as on 30th June, 2002 and not classified as Non-Performing Assets, will be consolidated into a Special Coffee Term Loan (SCTL) with a repayment schedule ranging between 7—9 years and initial repayment holdiy (moratorium) of two years, subject to certain conditions and review thereafter.

Coffee Board is also implementing a medium-term export strategy to sustain and gain market share in the key markets and also to improve the competitiveness of Indian Coffee in the global markets over the next few years.

New FDI proposals

4982. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved 57 Foreign Direct Investment proposals worth Rs.1,113 crores;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the projects to be undertaken; and

(d) by when these projects are likely to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government have recently approved 57 proposals of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) amounting to around Rs.1,113.00 crore. The major investment proposals pertain to sectors such as manufacture of colour display tubes for computer colour monitors, chemicals and petro-chemicals, courier services, telecom services, manufacture of automobiles, agro-chemicals, information technology, software development, e-learning education business, ISP, petroleum and natural gas and tourism. The particulars/details of these FDI proposals are available in the Press Release dated 20.03.2002, which is also posted on the website of SIA *i.e. http:// indmin.nic.in.*

(d) The information is not centrally maintained.

Indo-Bangladesh Trade Agreement

4983. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Bangladesh Commerce Secretaries met in the month of April, 2002 to review the trade agreements which was to expire during the month of April, 2002;

(b) if so, whether both the countries have reached an agreement to renew the trade pact;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) to what extent trade between the two countries will improve?